

Message Text

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67

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

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R 221008 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4219
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC
USLO PEKING

UNCLAS BANGKOK 9713

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, VN, TH

SUBJECT: PM THANOM'S STATEMENTS ON PRC AND NVN

REF: BANGKOK 9620

1. AT JUNE 20 PRESS CONFERENCE PRIME MINISTER THANOM
IN ANSWER TO QUERY AS TO RTG FOREIGN POLICY TRENDS RE PRC AND NUN,
EXPRESSED BENIGN ATTITUDES TOWARD BOTH
COUNTRIES. ON PRC, THANOM SAID BOTH THAILAND AND CHINA
HAVE HAD RELATIONS BACK TO ANCIENT TIMES AND HAVE FELT
AS IF THEY WERE BROTHERS. WITH REFERENCE TO PING- PONG TEAM
PRESENTLY VISITING BANGKOK. AND PRC INVITATIONS LAST YEAR TO THAI
PADDLERS AND CANTON FAIR, THANOM SAID RTG " IS GLAD TO SEE THAT THE
PRC

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IS SHOWING A FRIENDLY ATTITUDE TOWARD THAILAND, BECAUSE IT IS OUR POLICY TO BE FRIENDS WITH EVERY AND ALL COUNTRIES, REGARDLESS WHAT IDEALS THEY ADHERE TO OR WHAT SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT THEY MAY HAVE" HE CLAIMED THAT THE RTG IS FULLY AWARE OF SOME PROBLEMS BETWEEN IT AND THE CPR, BUT " HOPES THAT AS TIME PASSES BY AND GOOD UNDERSTANDING IS CREATED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IT WILL HELP OVERCOME THESE PROBLEMS" THANOM ADDED THAT THE RTG IS PARTICULARLY HOPEFUL, NOW THAT THE PRC IS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF CHINA IN THE UN. THAT IT WILL PLAY A ROLE IN HELPING EASE WORLD TENSIONS AND, THRU ITS MEMBERSHIP IN ECAFE, WILL ALSO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL FIELDS. IN CONCLUDING HIS REMARKS RE THE PRC, THANOM SAID " CHINA WILL MOST PROBABLY SET UP A PERMANENT ECAFE OFFICE IN BANGKOK AND AS FIRST STEP IT WILL SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COME AND STUDY THE SITUATION FIRST. THIS IS A GOOD OMEN SHOWING THAT THE PRC IS A COUNTRY OF THE FAR EAST AND THAT IT IS CONCERNED WITH THE FUTURE OF THIS PART OF THE WORLD JOINTLY WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THAILAND. SINCE IT IS A MEMBER OF THE UN AND ECAFE, IT WILL PLAY A PART JOINTLY IN SAFEGUARDING STABILITY IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD".

2. THANOM ALSO EXPRESSED RTG DESIRE FOR COOPERATION WITH NVN. HE CLAIMED THAT RTG POLICY TOWARD HANOI WAS BASED ON FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

1) CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES, THAILAND ADHERES TO THE PRINCIPLES OF INDEPENDENCE, FREEDOM AND EQUALITY WHICH ALL OTHER COUNTRIES REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL IDEALS OR SYSTEMS OF GOVERNMENT: 2) VARIOUS BILATERAL PROBLEMS WILL REQUIRE NEGOTIATIONS ESPECIALLY THE REPATRIATION OF SOME 50,000 VIETNAMESE DISPLACED PERSONS PRESENTLY IN THAILAND, AND IT IS HOPED THAT NVN WILL AGREE TO HOLD TALKS ON THIS MATTER SOON: AND 3) THAILAND DESIRES TO SEE NVN COOPERATE WITH ALL SEA COUNTRIES IN INTEREST OF DEVELOPING REGION

AND HALT SUBVERSION AND INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY LAOS AND CAMBODIA. THANOM CONCLUDED REMARKS BY STATING THAT THAILAND HAS TAKEN INITIATIVE IN PROPOSING CONFERENCE OF SEA COUNTRIES, INCLUDING NVN AND MOREOVER, AGREED WITH OTHER ASEAN MEMBERS TO INVITE NVN TO ATTEND RECENT ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING HELD IN PATAYA. IN POINTING OUT THAT HANOI HAD NOT RESPONDED TO THESE OVERTURES, THANOM ASSERTED THAT

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THE NEXT STEP TOWARD PROGRESS IN RELATIONS WITH NVN DEPEND MAINLY ON A RESPONSE FROM HANOI.

MASTERS

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